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weight as having actual probative force, along with the evidence offered by proponent, and that the other evidence offered by each party being equal, such presumption is sufficient to turn the scale in favor of the proponent." Two cases are cited, *Sturdevant's Appeal* (1899) 71 Conn. 392, Dunmore, *Cas. Wills* p. 65, and *Noble v. Armstrong* (1899) 160 N. Y. 584. *Sturdevant's Appeal* was overruled in *Vincent v. Mutual Reserve Life Fund Association* (1904) 77 Conn. 281.

The book is full of useful aids; as for instance, the collation of the various kinds of evidence which have been held admissible or inadmissible to prove or disprove testamentary capacity and undue influence, which should prove suggestive and useful to one about to try either of these questions. In general there can be no doubt that a practising lawyer, fortunate enough to own Gardner on *Wills* will thumb it often, when called upon to consider any question on the subject.

HARRISON HEWITT.

Bankruptcy Forms, Annotated. By Marshall S. Hagar of the New York Bar and Thomas Alexander, late Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Second Edition, by Mr. Hagar. Published by Matthew Bender & Co., Inc., Albany, N. Y. 1916. pp. liv, 909.

In name this work is essentially a form book covering the field of bankruptcy practice, and yet upon examination one finds it much more than that. It is in fact a concise and working compendium of the Law in Bankruptcy as the Act of 1898 and its Amendments have been construed and elucidated by the courts in the past eighteen years. From the mass of inharmonious decisions, which only tend to confuse and befog the practitioner, the authors have skilfully and intelligently selected and cited in appropriate foot-notes only those decisions of our courts which stand to-day as authorities.

The book contains in all 390 forms, including those officially prescribed by the Supreme Court and supplemental forms useful as precedents to those who practice in bankruptcy. These apparently cover the entire subject and numerous collateral matters which touch upon, or may become incidental to, a bankruptcy proceeding; as for instance, a suit in equity whose various forms for the bill of complaint, decree, etc., are given; also the writs of *habeas corpus* and *ne exeat*, and indictments.

A careful examination of the forms given shows that, for the most part, they follow closely the accepted practice in the New York District, and, as the authors say in their preface, many of them have stood the test of judicial scrutiny. I know from experience that the practice in bankruptcy is far from uniform throughout the country and that it is difficult to collate and prepare forms which would be serviceable in all parts of the Union; but the authors have endeavored to meet this condition by the insertion of many forms purely local to certain sections of the country.

The topical arrangement of the volume is logical and complete, and very helpful to student and practitioner alike. Appended to the forms, as notes, appear citations of upwards of 3000 cases; and, as stated above, these citations are remarkably thorough, accurate, and complete; and to my mind this is the most valuable and distinguishing feature of the work, useful not only to practitioners and students, but as well to the judges, referees, and other officers of the bankruptcy courts.

The supplementary part of the book contains the Bankruptcy Act of 1898 as amended in 1903, 1906, and 1910, the General Orders promulgated by the Supreme Court, and the local rules in the important Districts throughout the United States; and also a compact and useful timetable of procedure.

MAGRANE COXE.

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